



DIVISION OF FORESTRY

Pete Anderson, State Forester / Firewarden

PURPOSE:

The Division of Forestry (NDF) manages and coordinates all forestry, nursery, endangered plant species, and watershed resource activities on certain public, state, and private lands. Responsible for protecting property and natural resources through fire protection, prevention and suppression, and provides other emergency services. Provide fire suppression assistance to counties and local fire districts. Adopt and enforce fire prevention regulations, including fire retardant roofing and defensible space. Provide protection management to lands and improvements for fire districts receiving federal aid under Revised Public Law 95-313 91978, for over 8,777,000 acres of forest and watershed throughout Nevada.



ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE:

The division is organized into three geographical regions: Northern (Elko), Southern (Las Vegas), and Western (Washoe Valley) under the direction of the State Forester/Firewarden. The division manages the following four programs: Conservation Camp Program, Fire Management Program, Forestry Nursery and Seedbank Program, and Resource Management Program.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY:	NRS 232, 120, 472, 473, 527, and 528
NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES:	238 FTE and 62 Seasonal / 2004
TELEPHONE:	775.684.2500
WEB SITE ADDRESS:	www.forestry.nv.gov



More than 65 volunteers planted 32 trees and 16 shrubs with an Urban Community Forest Grant at Dayton State Park.

Photo by Jean Murray
Summer 2004

KEY LONG-TERM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

- ❏ Improve the health and vigor of Nevada's watersheds and diverse ecosystems through increased technical assistance to landowners and land managers; develop partnerships with federal, state, and local agencies and the private sector; enforce state laws and regulations; promote scientifically based conservation and best management practices; and educate the public on land stewardship ethics.
- ❏ Actively protect, enhance, and manage the natural resources of the state through education, and technical transfer and revegetation of wildfire-damaged lands.
- ❏ Provide scientifically based conservation and environmental education programs.
- ❏ Improve the environment of communities by increasing the planting of trees, and improving the care and maintenance of existing trees.
- ❏ Promote public awareness about the important role community forests play in the quality of life for all Nevadans.

SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE OR EXECUTIVE ACTIONS AFFECTING THE AGENCY:

- ❏ Continued to pursue coverage of agency employees regularly assigned to firefighting duties under NRS 582.100 Heart/Lung.

CONSERVATION CAMP PROGRAM

PURPOSE:

The program coordinates and supervises forestry, conservation, and other work projects performed by inmates from the Department of Corrections who reside in Forestry Conservation Camps. The program provides labor for projects, wild land fire suppression activities, and other emergency response activities. The program provides inmates with training in both natural resource project assignments and wild land fire suppression. The program supervises seventy-seven 12-person inmate crews in ten conservation camps.



Silver Springs Conservation Crew performing fire suppression activities on the Waterfall Fire.
Kings Canyon, Carson City.

July 2004

GOAL OR OBJECTIVE:

Maintain appropriate staffing levels.

ACCOMPLISHMENT:

- ❏ Evaluated program staffing and implemented a pilot reorganization that maximized the utilization of staffing levels, resulting in the highest revenue production to date.

GOAL OR OBJECTIVE:

Protect Nevada's air, water, land, forests, open space, and sensitive and threatened species and their habitat.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ❏ Conservation camp crews worked with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and private landowners to revegetate a riparian corridor, enhance and maintain the stream channel, and seed upland habitat to benefit the Preston-White River Spring Fish, White River Spine Dace, Desert Sucker Fish, and Sage Grouse.
- ❏ Conservation camp crews provided 36,122 workdays on emergency response activities; primarily fighting wild land fires.



Conservation Crew placed straw waddles for watershed protection and erosion control following The Waterfall Fire.
Canyon Drive, Carson City.

Photo by Tim Faust
August 2004

- ❑ Conservation camp crews provided approximately 200,000 workdays in FY03 in support of completing natural resources projects.

GOAL OR OBJECTIVE:

Reduce the recidivism rate of prison inmates.

ACCOMPLISHMENT:

- ❑ Provided training to over 4,000 inmates in programs ranging from basic fire suppression to horticulture and mechanics. The program also provided work projects for inmates to practice and develop work habits and skills.



Carlin Conservation Crew building elk fence to protect TS Ranch fields and haystacks from elk and antelope.
North of Dunphy, Northern Nevada.

Photo by Tom Brown
September 2004

KEY LONG-TERM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

- ❑ Implement the Conservation Camp Program reorganization through the FY06-07 Biennial Budget.
- ❑ Enhance capability to respond to wild land fires and other emergencies through an active physical fitness program and coordinated training of inmates.

FIRE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

PURPOSE:

Protect the citizens, visitors, and natural resources of Nevada from fire related catastrophes through public education, natural resource enhancement, and emergency service delivery. The program is divided into two categories: statewide fire protection and NDF Fire Protection Districts. The program is made up of a number of elements consisting of fire administration, business management, prevention, community protection, preparedness, and suppression resources.

GOAL OR OBJECTIVE:

Protect Nevada's air, water, land, forests, open space, and sensitive and threatened species and their habitats.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Reduced the risks to homes and private property through fire prevention education.
- Continued to reduce hazardous fuels through the prioritization of projects where the negative impact of wild land fire was greatest. Completed 24 fuels reduction projects totaling 1,945 acres.
- Continued to restore fire-adapted ecosystems through rehabilitation.
- Provided community assistance for suppression of wild land fires. Provided assistance incentives to communities to promote better fire prevention planning and actions through technical assistance and cost sharing incentives. Provided 41 grants to rural fire departments for training and equipment.
- Provided emergency support functions for firefighting to Nevada's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.

GOAL OR OBJECTIVE:

Provide for an effective emergency services program to protect public safety and welfare.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Increased knowledge and understanding of wild land fire management policies and practices internally to staff and externally to cooperators and the public through enhanced communication and education programs.
- Worked with partners and other affected parties to prevent unauthorized ignition of wild land fires.
- Promoted standardization for fire management activities internally to staff and externally to cooperators and the public through utilization of compatible training, qualification requirements, operational procedures, and public education programs.

- Enhanced capability to provide a safe, cost effective fire management program through appropriate planning, staffing, training, equipment, and management oversight.



NDF UH-2 helicopter making water drop on Voltaire I Fire.

Voltaire Canyon, Carson City.

Photo by Mike Klug
September 2003

- Continued to support wild land fire suppression activities.
- Successfully utilized the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Fire Management Assistance Grant Program to offset wild land fire suppression costs to the state estimated at \$7.3 million.
- Assisted local governments in acquiring a FEMA Fire Management Assistance Grant estimated at \$2 million.
- Successfully contracted “All Risk” responsibilities back to the counties, allowing the division to focus on wild land fire management within two of its six fire protection districts.

GOAL OR OBJECTIVE:

Promote partnerships with all federal, state, and local entities with respect to natural resource interests.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Entered into the initial steps for interagency fire management planning with federal partners.
- Participated in the formation of a fuels management working group for collaboration of fuels projects throughout the state.
- Completed an independent review of the Fire Management Program.
- Established, through the State Fire Protection Agreement, the ability to mobilize interagency interdisciplinary emergency rehabilitation teams for burned areas.

KEY LONG-TERM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

- # Continue discussions to allow contracting “All Risk” responsibilities back to the counties.
- # Continue to utilize a strategy within wild land urban interface that emphasizes measures to reduce the risk to communities and the environment. Provide an effective framework for collaboration as referenced in “A Collaborative Approach for Reducing Wild Land Fire Risks to Communities and the Environment” and the goals and guiding principals of the “Ten Year Comprehensive Strategy and Implementation Plan.”
- # Continue more efficient and effective mobilization of local government resources for the purpose of wild land fire protection to communities at risk to wildfire.
- # Continue to foster the effective utilization of the FEMA Fire Management Assistance Grant Program.



NDF reseeded this fire area in December 2003.

Voltaire II Fire, Carson City.

October 2003

FORESTRY NURSERY AND SEEDBANK PROGRAM

PURPOSE:

Responsible for the statewide planning, administration, and implementation of native plant materials program. The program is funded through plant sales at the Washoe Valley and Las Vegas nurseries, wood sales revenues from Lake Tahoe State Park, and seed sales at the seedbank.

The nurseries are enterprise budgets for which plant material sales is the primary source of revenue. The Las Vegas Nursery is the primary production nursery system producing a portion of the material sold at the Washoe Valley Nursery.

GOAL OR OBJECTIVE:

Promote partnerships with all federal, state, and local entities regarding natural resource interests.

STEWARDSHIP PROJECT



BEFORE

November 2003



AFTER

June 2004

This is an example of stream restoration, located in Preston, for the White River Spinedance, Preston White River Springfish, and White River Speckled Dace.

Photos by Jenny Scanland



Sensitive Endemic Fish:

Preston White River Springfish
(*Crenichthys baileyi albivallis*)

Photo by Glenn Clemmer



Sensitive Endemic Fish:

White River Speckled Dace
(*Rhinichthys osculus* ssp.)

Photo by Glenn Clemmer

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ❏ The Las Vegas Nursery partnered with the Southern Nevada Water Authority and the Las Vegas Springs Preserve to provide native plants for extensive restoration work in the Las Vegas Wash.
- ❏ Additional partnerships provided plant materials to the Wetlands Park, Overton Wildlife Refuge, Henderson Bird Sanctuary, Lake Mead National Park, Ducks Unlimited, BLM, and various local governments.
- ❏ Provided over 200,000 seedlings and 15,000 pounds of seed to conservation, restoration, and rehabilitation projects on public and private lands.
- ❏ The Washoe Valley Nursery provided native and adapted plants, and seed to numerous projects across western and northern Nevada through partnerships with The Nature Conservancy, Lake Tahoe Environmental Improvement Program (referred to as “Tahoe EIP”), Conservation Districts, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest, and local governments.

GOAL OR OBJECTIVE:

Protect Nevada’s air, water, land, forests, open space, and sensitive and threatened species and their habitats.

ACCOMPLISHMENT:

Engaged in the protection, management, and propagation strategies for plants listed under NRS 527.



NDF participated in the investigation and prosecution of the owner of this vehicle who was stealing and selling cactus.

Photo by John Jones

GOAL OR OBJECTIVE:

Develop educational programs and public information services that focus on conservation and management of Nevada’s natural resources.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ❏ Provided technical assistance to over 300 landowners and governmental agencies.
- ❏ Provided appropriate plant materials and helped provide information about planting, restoration, and natural resource management.

KEY LONG-TERM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

- ❏ Implement strategies that promote the development of high quality native and adapted plant materials for conservation, restoration, and rehabilitation.
- ❏ Reduce “cull” rate through conversion to plastic containers and use of cultural practices.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

PURPOSE:

The program provides services to landowners including technical forestry assistance, distribution site rehabilitation, invasive species control, tree planting cost share grants, and assistance to communities and rural landowners. The program is broken down into the following sections: Cooperative Forestry Management, Rural Fire Protection, Forest Stewardship, Urban and Community Forestry, Conservation Education, Forestry Health Protection, and Tahoe EIP.

GOAL OR OBJECTIVE:

Protect Nevada's air, water, land, forests, open space, and sensitive and threatened species and their habitats.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ❏ Provided over 250 technical consultations to private landowners and developed 35 Land Management Plans for private landowners.
- ❏ Treated 400 acres of forest and woodland for insect and disease related problems.
- ❏ Treated several thousand acres of forest and woodland for wildfire hazard reduction.
- ❏ Worked to restore and rehabilitate several thousand acres of rangeland and forests damaged by wild land fires.



Joshua Tree Borer Gallery, Southern Nevada.

Photo by Mark Hill
March 2004

GOAL OR OBJECTIVE:

Develop incentives that encourage economic development.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

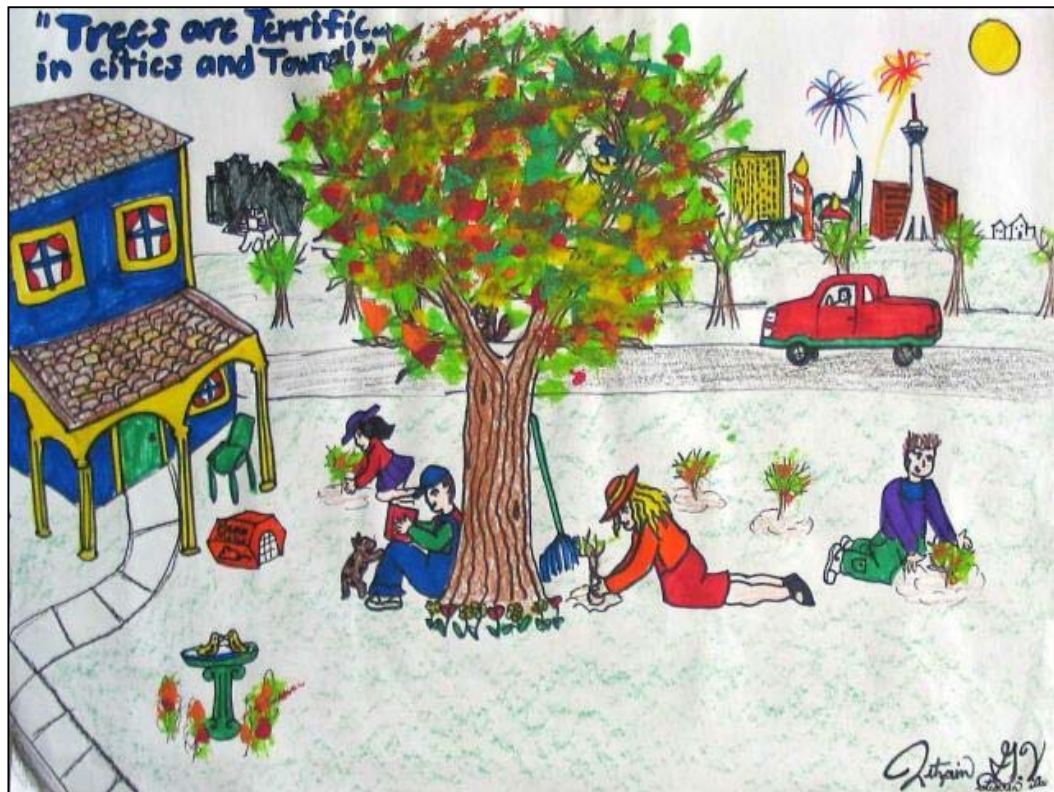
- ❏ The Fuels for Schools Program partnered with the White Pine County School District to obtain grants totaling \$465,000 for the replacement of an old oil burning heating system with a biomass fueled system that runs on recycled forest products and community wood waste.
- ❏ The Urban and Community Forestry Program awarded \$101,425 to 16 projects benefiting Nevada communities, agencies, and groups. The funds were matched with \$154,520 and 118 volunteers were involved in planting trees for community benefits.

GOAL OR OBJECTIVE:

Develop educational programs and public information services that focus on conservation and management of Nevada's natural resources.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- # Provided workshops for 74 teachers to learn about natural resources.
- # Provided opportunities for 870 students to learn more about the environment and science through partnerships with Nevada Cooperative Extension Service, Great Basin Outdoor School, Tahoe Rim Trail Association, and Nevada Natural Resource Education Council.
- # Approximately 470 fifth grade students participated in the Arbor Day Poster Contest and learned about how trees benefit the urban environment.



" Trees are Terrific...in Cities and Towns! "

2004 Arbor Day Poster Contest Winner

Jetzain, student at Walter V. Long Elementary School, Las Vegas.